**Steering Committee Conference Call: February 29, 2012**

**Participants**

Heather Breeze (DFO), Adria Elskus (U Maine/USGS), Jim Latimer (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (EC), Susan Russell-Robinson (USGS), and Christine Tilburg (GOMC).

**1. ESIP Annual Steering Committee Meeting**

ESIP's Annual Steering Committee meeting is approaching quickly. Christine Tilburg has gotten confirmation from managers/chairs of several GOMC committees as to their attendance at the morning session. Gulfwatch (Peter Wells), IT (Jennifer Hackett), and State of the Gulf Report (Heather Breeze) have all stated they will attend the morning meeting.

Christine listed off the items currently on the draft agenda. Individuals on the call suggested that the "Emerging Issues" section include discussion of socio-economic indicators, ecosystem valuation indicators, and indicators based on management activities in addition to considerations of climate change effects on indicators or how they are used.

In addition, it was requested that part of the agenda include

* a report on the response from the Maine Fishermen's Forum Panel (see below)
* subcommittee products, such as ‘white papers’ by each subcommittee documenting and interpreting their findings in more detail.

**2. Maine Fishermen's Forum Panel**

At the request of the ESIP Fisheries Subcommittee ESIP is heading a panel at the Maine Fishermen's Forum. The panelists are: Carl Wilson (DMR), Mike Fogerty (NOAA), Rick Wahle (U Maine), Tom Shyka (NERACOOS), and Randy Boutilier (Canadian Fishermen). The first part of the panel will introduce ESIP and the types of work each panelist is involved in. The discussion with the audience will focus on how best to present information. Examples to be included: tables, stacked bar graphs, trendline graphs, etc. If you have a figure you'd like included in the discussion please forward it to Christine at this time.

Christine will present graphs, etc at the forum, asking the audience which presentation styles work and which do not. She will report on this at the March meeting.

**3. Fisheries Subcommittee**

Christine brought the Steering Committee up to date on the new indicators chosen by the Fisheries subcommittee:

1. species diversity (in sub-regions)
2. money derived from various coastal activities (ship building, fishing, etc)
3. percent of money coming from 2-3 species
4. population of species (in sub-regions)

**4. ESIP QuickNotes**

With the help of the Gulf of Maine Times editor and Jim Cradock (IT), ESIP now has short briefing documents on each of the fact sheets available on our webpage. The documents are one page each and introduce ESIP and issues covered in the fact sheets.